

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

TO: CM/S  
TO: EXAMINING AUTHORITY

- 8 DEC 2004  
RECKITT BENCKISER  
GROUP PATENTS DEPT  
PCT

To:

BOWERS, Craig M.  
RECKITT BENCKISER PLC  
Group Patents Department  
Dansom Lane  
Hull HU8 7DS  
GRANDE BRETAGNE

CASE NUMBER

11113P4 WO.

DIARY

REMARKS

INVENTOR

ACTION

REMARKS

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1) FEB 2005

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

06.12.2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
11113P4 WO/CMB

#### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.  
PCT/GB 03/03689

International filing date (day/month/year)  
26.08.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)  
02.09.2002

Applicant

RECKITT BENCKISER N.V. et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:



European Patent Office  
D-80298 Munich  
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d  
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Hardy Magliano, N

Tel. +49 89 2399-8151



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**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference 11113P4 WO/CMB	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/03689	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 26.08.2003	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 02.09.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C08J7/04		
Applicant RECKITT BENCKISER N.V. et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  05.03.2004	Date of completion of this report  06.12.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer  Otegui Rebollo, J  Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8670  

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/03689**

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, Pages**

1-19 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-19 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

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**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/03689**

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	6,7,14
	No: Claims	1-5,8-13,15-19
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	6,7,14
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-19
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations**

**see separate sheet**

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**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO-A-0136290

D2: EP-A-0406623

1. The subject-matter of claims 1 to 5, 8 to 13 and 15 to 19 of the present application appears to be novelty anticipated (Article 33(2) PCT) by the articles described in documents D1 and D2 (see passages cited in the search report) comprising a skin formed from compositions comprising a water-soluble polymer and a water-soluble filler or additive.

2. The subject-matter of claims 6 and 14 appears to be obviously derivable (Article 33(3) PCT) from the teachings of D1 to those skilled in the art as the claims involve the use of known sulphonated polymers as a water-soluble polymer in the water-soluble compositions of D1 (claim 6), or the incorporation therein of a typical laundry additive like a polyphosphate (claim 14). Concerning the sulphonated polymers which may be prepared from the monomers disclosed in claim 7 of the application, it is not apparent that they could solve the technical problem underlying the invention (see page 2, last paragraph to page 3, last paragraph of the application) as said monomers appear to contain multiple unsaturated moieties (Article 33(3) PCT).

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